School drop outs

†3285. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of girl droup outs is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALl ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Drop-out rates of girls calculated on the basis of provisional data supplied by the States/UTs at primary, elementary and secondary stages during the years 2000-01 to 2002-03 are given below:

Year	Girls drop-out rates		
	Primary (l-V) Stage	Elementary (l-VIII) Stage	Secondary (l-X) Stage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
2000-01	41.9	57.7	71.5
2001-02	39.9	56.9	68.6
2002-03	33.7	53.5	65.0

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Government to reduce the drop-out rates are:

- Education has been made free for all children between 6 to 14 years.
- Monitoring of attendance by the Community.
- Micro planning and household survey to identify the dropouts and reasons therefor.
- Organising retention drives.
- Improving the quality of teaching to retain children in school.
- Organising bridge courses/back to school camps etc. to bring the dropouts back into school.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Providing cooked midday meal to boost the efforts towards "universalisation of primary education" by increasing enrolment, retention and attendance and simultaneously impacting on the nutrition of students in primary classes.

UGC regulations

3286. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has initiated steps to examine the proper implementation of the UGC regulation framed for establishment and maintenance of standards in the private universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of inspections done during the last two years, State-wise, category-wise and year-wise and the action taken or to be taken based on the above inspections; and

(c) the number of private universities for the three years, State-wise, category-wise and year-wise and as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The incorporation, regulation and winding up of Universities is within the competence of the State Legislatures. However, in order to maintain standards of higher education the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities)

Regulations, 2003 were issued on 27th December, 2003 and are in force. These Regulations apply to every private university established by or incorporated under a State Act, before or after the commencement of these regulations and also apply to all the degrees/diplomas/certificates offered by such universities.

The UGC has reported that they had constituted 11 inspection committees to see whether the private universities are following the norms/ regulations of the UGC and had undertaken the inspections of 114 private universities in the following States during the last two years, as per details given below:—